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Winter 2015

Communiqué: College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences Alumni Magazine, Volume 4, Winter 2015

University of Northern Iowa. College of Humanities, Arts, and Sciences.

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Communiqué: College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences Alumni Magazine, Volume 4, Winter 2015

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VERTIGO A-GOGO PERFORMANCE ART AT ITS BEST

plus:

A New Learning Environment

Inspire Project

The World of Kurt Vonnegut





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DEAN'SMESSAGE

The College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences has had a strong year. Enrollments in our college were down a bit, but the percentage of UNI students who have majors in CHAS has been steady. Over 30% of the students at UNI who have declared majors have done so in CHAS. We also had a banner year in faculty recruitment, adding 27 new permanent faculty to our roster.

Personally, I have found this year to be one of reflection, with several age odometers turning over at about the same time. I turned 60 this past summer. At the end of the last academic year, I completed 40 years of higher education teaching and administration, starting as a teaching assistant through my years at UNI. In December 2014, I will have completed 20 years in administration at UNI, beginning as head of Mathematics and continuing with several appointments as dean and interim dean. This includes ten consecutive years of service as dean at UNI—I started as dean of the College of Natural Sciences in January 2005, then added the College of Humanities and Fine Arts in January 2010, when the impending merger of those two colleges was announced, creating the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences in July 2011.

So the question of what to do with the rest of my career seemed a natural one. The result? In early March, I decided that I would retire from my administrative duties and responsibilities as of December 31, 2014. In this way I will have completed two 5-year terms as dean. I will return to the faculty as a member of the Department of Mathematics in Fall, 2015.

I am very happy that my colleague and associate dean John Fritch has been named interim dean. His experience as both associate dean and former head of Communication Studies will make the transition very smooth. I have full confidence in his ability to the lead the college. He will serve as interim dean until a successful search for a new dean is conducted, likely during the 2015-2016 academic year.

For those of you who enjoy data, during my 11 years as dean or interim dean, I have served with three presidents, four provosts, 35 department heads and seven associate deans. Considering deans outside my own college, I have served alongside 23 different deans.

It has been a privilege to serve UNI and its faculty, staff and students as the inaugural dean of CHAS. This has been the most exciting challenge and opportunity of my career. I thank all of you for your support and for your continued interest in UNI and its mission.

I wish you all the best,

Goel Haack

HELEFIGHTERS

ary Kelley's [BA Art '68] illustrated book Harlem Hellfighters has been chosen by the New York Times as one of the top 10 children's books of the year. Released in September, Harlem Hellfighters joins the list of award-winning collaborations between Kelley and author J. Patrick Lewis. Another of their collaborative efforts, And the Soldiers Sang, an illustrated version of the true story of the 1914 Christmas Truce released in 2011, won the Horn Book award for picture books.

Harlem Hellfighters chronicles the achievements of the First World War's all African-American 396th infantry, a regiment recruited in New York. *The Times* review applauds *Harlem Hellfighters* saying, "Lewis' poetics are perfectly complemented by Kelley's evocative pastel illustrations,

which both inspire and unsettle. The men are rendered with a stoic simplicity that conveys dignity and perseverance."

"The U.S. Army would not trust them to fight because they were black," said Kelley. "They were sent to France and they were trained to fight, but weren't allowed to." However, the French saw their potential and asked the American military to let the 396th fight with them.

For the majority of their time in Europe, the Hellfighters wore French uniforms and fought for the French military. "They were the first American's to reach the Rhine River

and won many medals," said Kelley. "But the great irony was that whole time blacks were being lynched in the American South."

Upon their return to New York, the 396th marched down 5th Avenue to large, cheering crowds. "Many thought that this might be the turning point in racial equality, but as we know now, nothing changed," said Kelley.

When asked about his artwork for the book, Kelley said much of his inspiration came from old photographs. "One of the great things about World War I is that it was one of the first wars to be documented with photography." He also worked closely with

GET YOUR COPY OF HARLEM HELLFIGHTERS - CLICK HERE

the author, Lewis. "A lot of major publishers don't encourage collaboration between author and illustrator, but with Pat [Lewis] and I, it's the opposite."

Kelley also said he likes to place a little more trust in his reader. "It's very important to me when I'm doing pictures for books like this, that they challenge the reader," he said. "I want whoever is reading the book to have to read between the lines."

Kelley is hoping his next book will be available for readers in the fall of 2016. Moving from the First World War to the second, his next book will illustrate the heroic story of the Navaho Code Talkers. "Much like the Hellfighers, this story deals with intolerance and discrimination of a group that made great sacrifices and was

> significant to the Allies' victory," he said. As well as being a nationally, recognized book illustrator, Kelley has done a fair amount of work with the Department of Theatre at UNI. Over the years, Kelley has been asked to create material

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years, Kelley has been asked to create material for a number of productions including *Bat Boy: The Musical, Spring Awakening, Macbeth* and the upcoming *Avenue Q*.

Kelley said he enjoys the variety and creative freedom he experiences working with the theatre. "I've always been a big proponent of finding the right person for the assignment and then let them do it," he said. "Hire them because you like what they do and then trust them to do their magic."

Department of Theatre Head Eric Lange said, "Gary [Kelley] always takes a great interest in learning the story of the play and seeking input from the creative team working on the show. His designs are powerful and intuitive, and often explore little details that related back to the characters and story of the play."

"I love the research," said Kelley. "I want to create a poster that will get your attention, but is smart enough that after you see the play, or maybe on your second or third look, something jumps out at you, and you think 'Ah, yes, I see it." • • •



NEAREST RECE

J. PATRICK LEWIS & GARY KELLEY

American Panthers In London

the coaches were great and the girls in the color guard were super welcoming." Verner said the supporting atmosphere has continued throughout her time with the band. "I look at practices like a study break. It never really stresses me out. It calms me down. The guard is my family, they're like my sisters and Dr. Galyen is a great mentor," she said. "Dr. Galyen is really big on making sure everyone is comfortable and happy and that we're all really excited about the next game or performance."

Another student who made the trip is senior Victoria Chargo. "It's not just a vacation," said Chargo. "It's sharing in art and in something unique to UNI." She was excited to perform internationally, but was also excited at the prospect of exploring London with her marching band family.

Chargo is in her fourth season with the band and she said part of the draw was the tradition. "We are following in the footsteps of all these alumni, which is really cool." The pregame cheers are her favorite whole-band tradition; she said each section has their own. As a mellophone player, she said her section gets together every year for a Thanksgiving dinner.

The atmosphere in and around the marching band is always a unique and positive one, said Chargo. "It's fun to perform and see the student section get excited. It seems like halftime most places is when everyone leaves to go get their hot dog or chips, but more and more we are seeing the student section staying and watching the band."

When asked what is next for the marching band, Galyen said, "I don't know yet. I'll probably start thinking about that on the plane ride back from London." • • •



n New Year's Day the Panther Marching Band marched on Parliament Square as they participated in the 28th London New Year's Day Parade (LNYDP). They joined more than 8,500 performers who were representing more than 20 countries worldwide. UNI was the only university marching band from Iowa participating in the parade. The trip also marked the first overseas performance for the band in its over 120-year history.

RELET

"This is a great time in our history to do this and represent the University," said Daniel Galyen, Director. "We've been growing since 2007 and the band is big enough now where we can go and represent UNI really well." Of the record breaking 330 marching band members, 176 spent their New Year's holiday abroad. "I think a lot of the students were just excited to go overseas because a lot of our students had never been to another country," said Galyen. "Some of them had never even flown before. So to get the chance to do this with us is a special thing for them."

The band left December 28 and returned January 4, but

marching was only one portion of their trip. Over the five days, band members explored London and the surrounding country, visiting everything from the grim Tower of London, where they saw the Crown Jewels, to the mysterious Stonehenge. Students also had the luxury of exploring one of the world's most famous cities on their own time. "The hotel was in walking distance of almost everything in downtown London," said Galyen. "New Year's Eve, they were able to walk to the London Eye where they shoot off fireworks over the Thames." However, for the students, New Year's Eve was their only night with a strict curfew—following the fireworks, of course—as they had to wake at the crack of dawn to prepare for their performance.

The parade started at noon on Berkeley Street before winding its way through downtown London, finishing before the final grandstands in the shadow of Big Ben. Much like the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York, the LNYDP ends with a two-minute performance from each act before the VIP grandstands and the TV broadcasters on Parliament Street. The marching band performed for several hours, as the procession came to a stand still as each performing act attempted to dazzle the closing grandstand. "One of the neat things about this parade was that it was so large that the participating bands are spaced really far apart," said Galyen. "Instead of just marching or keeping time for portions of the route, we performed most of the time, which was great for our students. If they were going to make this trip, they were going to want to perform."

Sophomore Alanna Verner is one student who joined the band overseas. "I went to London with my parents a couple years ago," said Verner. "I just thought it would be really fun to go with my friends, because the band is like a family." Besides the performance, which she most looked forward to, Verner was excited to see Stonehenge and "The Lion King" on stage in London.

Verner has been a member of the Panther Marching Band's color guard since her first year on campus. "I always wanted to be in the color guard," she said, "and when I went to tryouts

BRIEFS *Humanities and Fine Arts*

Gaining Accreditation

The Department of Theatre recently gained accreditation through the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

NAST is the national accrediting agency for theatre and theatre-related disciplines and is made up of approximately 177 schools of theatre. The granting of accredited membership is a sign that an institution has met an external set of basic criteria for its programs. It also indicates an ability to provide a base of academic strength and operational integrity.

The Department of Theatre is made up of 15 faculty and staff and offers study in performance, design and production and drama and theatre for youth. Through its production wings—Theatre UNI and Sturgis Youth Theatre —the department produces plays and musicals in the Strayer-Wood Theatre. Programming includes frequent guest artists, significant outreach to local schools, opportunities for students to connect to the profession through auditions and specialized conferences and collaboration with other academic programs and disciplines on campus. UNI also hosts the largest gathering of high school drama students in the state each November through the Iowa Thespians Festival. "The accreditation process has been very thorough and educational," said Eric Lange, department head and associate professor of theatre. "I'm proud of the stamp of approval from NAST and the faculty and staff who continue to bring excellence to our program."

Little Free Library

Seven University or Northern Iowa art education majors teamed up with approximately 25 Hoover Middle School Expanded Learning Program (ELP) students to build and distribute Little Free Libraries throughout the Waterloo community.

Little Free Library is a "take a book, return a book" system, which incorporates a box, much like a mailbox, full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up or drop off a book. Prior to this project, three of these book sharers existed in Cedar Falls but none in Waterloo.

The Hoover Middle School students joined the UNI students on October 31, to help sculpt and build the libraries. They will then returned to campus on November 14, to paint, shingle and decorate them.

The seven UNI students involved were enrolled in professor Wendy Miller's class, Theories in Art Education, where, Miller said, "The course is based on social justice art education and the new trends of improving art education through technology, community arts and outreach."



The students also worked to create a PSA video to promote stewards for the Little Free Libraries in Waterloo. They interviewed the middle school students and documented the process of building the libraries. "Ultimately," said Miller, "the middle school kids will be working to recruit stewards in the Waterloo Community." The students then worked to build the libraries with

aid from Dan Perry, a shop technician in the UNI Art Department currently teaching sculpture.

"It is important that art teachers are utilizing STEM initiatives to show the value art plays in STEM," said Miller. "I believe by adding art to STEM, making it STEAM, the projects are richer. Design is an essential component in creating and building things, such as these Little Free Libraries."



BRIEFS *Humanities and Fine Arts* (Continued)

Special Olympics Torch

The Department of Art's Public Art Incubator was asked to create the 2014 Special Olympics Torch. The games were held in New Jersey on June 14-21, with nearly 3,500 athletes competing in 16 team and individual sports.

This was the third Special Olympics torch the incubator has made, the last being created for the 2010 games held in Nebraska.

Dan Perry, Incubator Shop Technician and UNI Instructor, said, "I went to the opening ceremonies with the 2010 cauldron. There were 16,000 people there. There are Hollywood actors, famous athletes and government officials. They make a big deal about it, so it's really exciting."

An estimated 70,000 fans, family and friends, along with 10,000 volunteers and 1,000 coaches attended the 2014 games.

The publicity for the Special Olympics is supported by companies such as Bow and Arrow Production, who orches-trated the ceremony for the entirety of the games. This included the concerts, tradeshows, laser and light shows, pyrotechnics and more. Other supporters included 21st Century Fox, World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) and Toys "R" Us, to name a few. Also, because Eunice Kennedy Shriver founded the Special Olympics, members of the Kennedy family were present at the opening ceremonies and events.

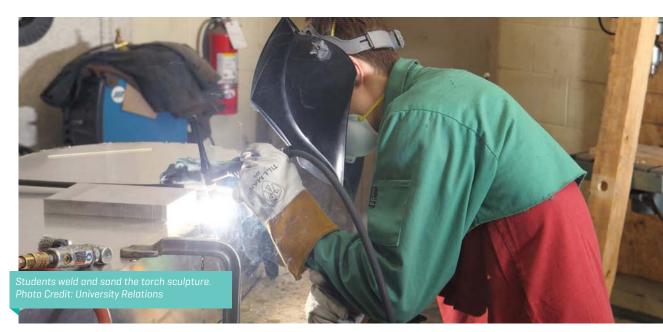
When asked to explain the design process of the torch, Perry said, "The Special Olympics produces a logo designed by a special athlete. We generally get an image of this logo, and they say, 'We want that with all this other stuff to happen." Then, Perry and the team take the logo provided by the

Special Olympics committee and examine how it would work from an engineering standpoint.

The design included different pieces to be carried by athletes and attached to the torch at the opening ceremonies. Once the pieces were attached, a flaming podium was dropped from the top to complete the sculpture. Each piece was inscribed with a word that represented different aspects of the Special Olympics. The incubator also created the podiums for the speakers at the ceremonies.

Two students worked on the torch with Perry and UNI Professor of Art Tom Stancliffe overseeing the project.

Stancliffe said, "It's [the Public Art Incubator] a way for professional artists to come and use our fabulous facilities to construct public art projects, commissioned for public spaces. We also use it as a springboard for recent graduates who are trying to get their first commission and have a place to build it."





VERTIGO A-GOGO "A lot basic eler

of people haven't encountered performance art, and it can be unexpected." sensation of whirling, a loss of balance, a dizziness associated with looking down from a great height. "There's something exciting about a piece of art getting into your head so much it makes you dizzy," said Art Department head Jeff Byrd. At the end of each semester, the department sends heads spinning with its performance art showcase, Vertigo A-GoGo.

Performance art is an interdisciplinary

genre, combining the visual with the dramatic. Performances, scripted or unscripted, random or carefully orchestrated, may exist in any situation that involves four basic elements: time, space, the performer's body and a relationship between the performer and audience. At UNI undergraduates and BFA's have the option of an emphasis in this medium.

"When I started teaching performance art, there wasn't a lot of awareness of what it actually was," said Byrd. "With other classes, such as painting or drawing, it's really easy to get an idea of what the students are doing, because the professor can just hang the work up in the display cases. There really isn't a way to hang the performances in the display cases, at least not on a regular basis. We came up with the idea of doing a showcase each semester where students would repeat their best piece from the semester."

The event, which was started in the early 1990s, is held twice a year on campus showcasing students. A third is held off-campus, showcasing professional artists. In the fall, *Vertigo A-GoGo* is held in the university's Gallery of Art with about 15 to 20 students. In the spring the show expands to all of the Kamerick Art Building with about 25 students. Both shows are two hours long. All performers come from the Performance Art I, II or III level classes. The show is directed by art instructors Aypryl Pippert and Angela Waseskuk with help from gallery director Darell Taylor.

There are two main categories the performances fall under, said Byrd. There are Durational pieces or timed pieces. "Durational pieces, they're not really designed for the audience to watch from beginning to end," Byrd said. "The idea is that the piece is just going on for the two hours and you can come back and see how things continue to develop." A lot of these performances involve some form of strenuous activity or an accumulation of something. Timed pieces, on the other hand, may not last the whole time, and are intended to be watched from beginning to end.

"The showcase is probably the first time for the performers that someone who isn't their classmate is seeing their work," said Byrd. "That challenge really helps them to rise. They are sometimes at their best when it's real and there is a real audience. You don't know how they are going to react. When you are working in class, it is often a more supportive environment, a controlled environment, but when you are dealing with a real public show, you get a lot of different kinds of reactions That is part of what maturing as an artist is about."

Byrd believes Vertigo is also important to the student body as a whole. "A lot of people haven't encountered it [performance art] before and it can be unexpected. You're not

Artist Brock Jensen performs at Vertigo A-GoGo.



Artist MacKenzie Clark performs at Vertigo A-GoGo. sure what your role as spectator is, because sometimes you're not supposed to be a spectator, you're supposed to be a participant. For the audience, the experience is one of those important aspects of a University education. You are given this opportunity to encounter something you may have not had any contact with before. Something that may be surprising, something that may be challenging, something that may be funny in a way you never thought it could be. It's important to have these types of experiences available, because that's what we are here to do, expand our notions of reality."



Every October, Vertigo A-GoGo is held off-campus in Waterloo and showcases professional artists from around the world. Byrd feels this is not only a valuable experience to the public at large, but the students are able to apply it to their learning. "It's important for the students studying it [performance art] to see it done live and not just through video or still pictures," said Byrd. When first starting the event, Byrd said he had even used some of his own frequent flyer miles to bring in some of these artists. "It's something really near and dear to my heart," he said. •••



Artist Zach Bowman welcomes viewers to Vertigo A-GoGo.



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COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS & SCIENCES

Lessons in Publishing Using Parallel Fiction

orld War II and alien abductions, wormholes and Mars colonization, poetry writing computers and Bokononism. In *The World of Kurt Vonnegut*, surrealist science fiction is elegantly blended with a healthy dose of satirical social commentary. The American author was as close to "rock-star" status in his day as any wordsmith could ever hope to be, said Jim O'Loughlin (Languages and Literatures). In his Craft of Fiction class, he and his students venture into that vibrant, "rock star" world by writing parallel fictions based on Vonnegut's work for Kindle Worlds', *The World of Kurt Vonnegut*.

Parallel fiction, sometimes referred to as "fan fiction," is an exercise where an author uses aspects from an already established story—the characters, plot elements, unique universes or concepts—and creates a new story, playing off the original. These stories vary in closeness with the originals. Some may take the main characters and add to their stories. Some, on the other hand, may take an idea mentioned only briefly and create an entire narrative. The only rule: you can't violate anything already established in the original piece.

Kindle Worlds launched as a publication platform a couple years ago where writers enter into the licensed "world" of their favorite authors. The simple publishing process allows writers to create their own, inspired piece, design a cover and upload their work to be shared. Each story, after being approved and published—a process that usually takes a day or two—becomes available for purchase on the Kindle store for 99 cents. "This is the second semester I've had students in Craft of Fiction write stories that could be published as part of *The World of Kurt Vonnegut*. Though all students do the work necessary to publish, it is up to the students to decide to publish a work after the end of class."

The Worlds range from *Gossip Girls* and *The Vampire Diaries* to *G.I. Joe* and *Shadowman*, but somewhere, squeezed into this collection is *The World of Kurt Vonnegut*. "He is an odd presence on the list (alongside popular TV shows, comic books and vampire novel series)," said O'Loughlin, "but it makes a kind of sense. Though his work is regularly taught in literature classes, he also incorporates elements of popular culture and genres into this work, and he has a devoted cult following.

"Students have done some of their best writing for this project," said O'Loughlin. "The stories that have been published are great reads, whether or not one is a fan of Vonnegut. It has been an additional benefit to demystify aspects of the publication process."

The first semester, half a dozen students from the class decided to publish the work. O'Loughlin said, he expects about the same number from this semester's class to do the same.

"Last year, I had students read either Slaughterhouse-Five or God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater. Then they were asked to write a story that used copyrighted elements of the novel for their own original story. Some stories turned minor characters into protagonists over the course of the source narrative. Other stories extended the source novel to develop plots that branch in new directions. Still, others spun entirely new stories that have tangential connections to the source novel," said O'Loughlin. "This semester, I've had students read *Slaughterhouse-Five* as well as a selection of Vonnegut's short stories, and they have the choice of using any of them as the source text."

O'Loughlin said, he also gains from this exercise, both as a professor and writer. "Both semesters, I've been the guinea pig, writing a draft, workshopping it with the class, revising it and then bringing the story through the publication process. This semester, I took Vonnegut's 1950 story, *EPICAC* and wrote an updated version, *EPICAD 2025*. It's an exercise that helps me develop my own writing chops, and, as an instructor, the exercise makes the fiction the class reads vital to the course. It can sometimes be a problem in a fiction writing class to make the fiction we read relevant to the stories we write."

Jon Daclison, junior in English, said he enjoyed the assignment. "It was challenging," he said. "It helped that Dr. O'Loughlin walked us through the publication process." He also said that learning aspects of the publication process was the most rewarding aspect of the assignment. Daclison also considers himself a long time fan of Vonnegut, "I always fall back to his books." ••••

For a list of works published by O'Loughlin and his class, visit: www.uni.edu/langlit/content/uni-students-write-world-kurt-vonnegut.

Original cover art by Megan Gregorsak for her story "Her Father Believed in Aliens Shaped Like Plungers."

Giving Others the Same Chance

Theatre Alumna Gives Back

UMANITIES,

, ARTS

egina Neville's name hasn't appeared on a UNI class attendance sheet for some time. She won't be seen traipsing around the Campanile, or sipping coffee in the library. No longer can she be spotted backstage at Strayer-Wood Theatre. And you probably won't see her at any more of the theatre department's legendary Halloween parties. But just because Neville's days on campus are behind her, UNI stays firmly in her present life. As a yearly giver to the Theta Alpha Phi Endowed Scholarship (TAP) scholarship and the CHAS Dean's Fund, she and her husband Tom, stay committed to supporting current students.

"It's important to give back," said Neville. "College debt can be crushing. I remain grateful for having received the Bertha Martin and TAP scholarships during my undergraduate years, including my 'super-senior' year, which allowed me to complete a second major in education." She said without the financial assistance, the future fiscal burden of graduate school would have been far more difficult and may not have even happened. "Any contribution I can make to help current students on their journey is a great investment," Neville said.

After graduating from UNI, Neville attended Yale School of Drama before traveling to Chapel Hill to work as the production stage manager for PlayMaker's Repertory Company (PRC) at University of North Carolina. In the summer of 1989 she traveled to Hungary, the former Soviet Union and Lithuania with a Broadway production of A Walk in the Woods, by Lee Blessing. "I had worked as the assistant stage manager for the production's premiere at Yale Repertory Theatre, and continued with the company for productions at La Jolla Playhouse and then on to Broadway," said Neville. While in Budapest, she received an offer to take the position of interim administrative director for PRC, a position that marked her transition from stage management into theatre management. "My position became permanent, and I stayed with PlayMaker's through 1991," she said. "During that time I also taught a theatre management class in the undergraduate department [at UNC]."

Neville also spent time working in non-profit theatre production out in the San Francisco Bay area. "It was difficult and rewarding," she said. "There is always pressure to make ends meet while dedicating as many resources as possible to the production. My favorite part was sitting in the back of the house, watching a production take shape and feeling that tingle, knowing that this story is going to be amazing."

In 2000, Neville returned to the Midwest when she moved to Minneapolis. After teaching 7th through 12th grade for a time, she decided to pursue a spot on the local school board. "There is an opportunity for everyone to support a quality, accessible education for all students," she said. In 2010, she was elected to her first term as a member of the Edina School Board and was re-elected to a second term in 2014.

Neville feels that her work in theatre has created a foundation from which her teaching and work with education can firmly stand. "Like the arts, education is a nonprofit," she said. "There is collaboration with teachers, administrative teams, parents, students and community. Stage managing offers specific skills that support that process. Working as a managing director for ten years provided helpful business and personnel background."

Neville is still striving to achieve more, as well as stay involved with theatre. "I've been writing many one-act plays for a children's Bible study curriculum that I would like to publish," she said. I had packaged them as Twenty-Two 20-Minute Plays, but now there are 24, so I need to come up with a better title."

She continues to participate on grant review panels for the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, as well as volunteering with the theatre program at their local public school. She also provides training for tech crews and coaching for stage managers. "Each winter I present a stage management seminar as part of the Minnesota Thespian Festival in Minneapolis," she said.

"The rhythm of producing many productions provides an excellent foundation for developing professional skills and collaboration," said Neville when thinking back to her time spent at The Department of Theatre. "However, it's when things don't work like you

expect that you get the



Neville continues to make a difference at UNI.

chance to engage in the 'healthy tension' of the creative process. I learned a lot when things went wrong. Theatre provides opportunities to adapt all the time, and it's worthwhile to discern how to and how not to respond when things change. Years later, when I was facilitating a production meeting, the directors opened with the statement, 'We don't have a challenge, we have a problem.' I knew how to navigate the conversation with an open mind and the flexibility to find a solution."

One of the greatest lessons Neville feels she learned from the theatre program is a skill best described by Stephen Covey, "Beginning with the end in mind."

"Every production begins with a vision that must become shared," said Neville. "There is a story to tell and a creative team of writers, artists and administrators are going to work together to find the path to realize that vision on opening night." • • •

CHASAPPLAUSE

Humanities and Fine Arts Roy Behrens (Art) gave the opening keynote address at the international camouflage conference in Sydney, Australia, on August 9, 2014.

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS & SCIENCES

Sheila Benson (Languages and Literatures) received the 2014 University Book and Supply Outstanding Teaching Award. This award honors pre-tenure faculty members who have shown significant contributions to the quality of teaching.

Angela Burda (Communication Sciences and Disorders) received the Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence in Departmental Programs.

John Burnight (Philosophy and World Religions) received UNI's Excellence in Liberal Arts Core Teaching Award.

Jeffery Byrd (Art) performed as part of the exhibition Lightning Speed of the Present/Accumulation Phase 2 at Boston University Gallery 808. MORE>>

April Chatham-Carpenter (Communication Studies) received the Excellence in Advising/Service to Students award, the Northern Iowa Student Government Above and Beyond Award.

Jennifer Cooley (Languages and Literature) received the Midwest One Advising Award. Angeleita Floyd (School of Music) received the Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. She was also awarded the National Flute Associations Distinguished Service Award in New Orleans and the class of 1943 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Jeff Funderburk (School of Music) received the Dean's Award for Excellence in Service.

Tammy Gregersen (Languages and Literatures) and co-author, Peter Mac-Intyre, published their new book, titled Capitalizing on Language Learners' Individuality: From Premise to Practice. MORE>>

Kim Groninga's (Languages and Literatures) poem "Dear Probable Pedophile" was published in the Spring 2014 issue of the Volga River Review. Her essay "Knot and Pull" was published in the Summer 2014 issue of Redux Literary Journal MORE>>

Vince Gotera (Languages and Literatures) had his poem "News from

Typhoon Yolanda" published in the literature and art anthology Surges: Outpouring in Haiyan/Yolanda's Wake.

Adrienne Lamberti (Languages and Literatures) and Anne Richards of Kennesaw State University were selected by John Wiley & Sons Publishing as editor of a new book series, *Engineer*- ing Transformation: Conflict, Crisis Adaptation.

Christopher Martin (Communication Studies) was named a Fulbright Scholar for 2013-2014. He undertook his research in Hungary.

Chris Ogbondah (Communication

Studies) presented the lead paper at the 16th National Conference of African Council for Communication Education. The paper, "Photo Ethics in Nigerian Press: Will The Watchdog Please Watch Itself!," was also presented at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka in March 2014.

Robert Washut, Jr. (School of Music) received the Dean's Award for Research, Scholarship or Creative Activity.

Siegrun Wildner's (Languages and

Literatures) article "Das Fremde als Grenzgänge" was published in the February issue of 39NULL: Magazin für Gesellschaft und Kultur, a Berlin, Germany journal on contemporary issues in society and culture.

Victoria Pruin DeFrancisco (Communication Studies) received UNI's Diversity Award.

Martha Reineke (Philosophy and World Religions) received the Class of 1943 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching Paul Siddens (Communication Studies) received the Regents Excellence Award.

Francesca Soans (Communication

Studies) received the 2014 Loren Horton Community History Award from the State Historical Society of Iowa for the documentary "Sons of Jacob Synagogue."

Jesse Swan's (Languages and Literatures) new book, Editing Lives: Essays in Contemporary Textual and Biographical Studies in Honor of O. M. Brack, Jr has been published by Bucknell University Press. Swan was also selected to participate in the National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Research project of Shakespeare and Biography.

Grant Tracey (Languages and Literatures) received the Regents Excellence Award.

Sciences

MORE>>

Jim Demastes (Biology) received the Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence in the Liberal Arts Core.

Rui He (Physics) has been invited to give a presentation on her research with graphene at the 2015 American Physical Society March (APS) Meeting MORE>>

Syed Kirmani (Mathematics) received the Dean's Award for Research, Scholarship or Creative Activity.

Mary McDade (Biology) received the Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence in Departmental Programs. She also was also awarded the UNI Student Alumni Ambassadors' Apple Polisher Award, which recognizes student support. Mark C. Myers (Biology) was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship. He conducted his research in Colombia.

Carl Thurman (Biology) received the

James Lubker Faculty Research Award. Thurman was also awarded the Regents Excellence Award.

Professional Development Assignments

Spring 2014

Jin Zhu (Technology) System Modeling and Optimization of an Ambient Energy Harvesting Wireless Sensor Network.

Bin Liu (Mathematics) Tail Behavior of Probability Distributions in Queuing Processes.

Tammy Gregersen (Languages and Lit-

eratures) Watch What I'm Saying: Activities to Enhance Foreign Language Communication Through Nonverbals.

Fall 2015

Cynthia Goatley (Theatre) The Libretto for a One-Act Opera about Explorer Isabella Bird in the Rocky Mountains.

Vince Gotera (Languages and Litera-

tures) Born from Bamboo: Poems from Philippine Myths.

Catherine H. Palczewski (Communication Studies) Seeing Vulnerable Citizenship: Watching Violence Against U.S. Suffragists 1913-1919.

Suzanne M. Riehl (Mathematics) Analysis of Data in "Routes to Reason: Proportion."

Spring 2015

Melinda Boyd (Music) Dolly Parton: Image, Music, Text.

Robert Martin Chin (Chemistry and

Biochemistry) Synthesis of Diruthenium Alkane Complex.

James W. Demastes (Biology) The Persistence of Diversity: A Genetic Study of a Species Experiencing an Ongoing Shift in Geographic Distribution.

David Grant (Languages and Liter-

atures) Rhetorical Education: An Introduction to Thinking and Communicating in College and Beyond.

Nageswara Roa Posinasetti (Tech-

nology] Optimization Methods for Sustainable Manufacturing Using Biodegradable Metal Working Fluids.

John B. Schafer (Computer Science)

Analysis and Construction of a Prototype Platform for Teaching Computer Programming in Learning Lab Environments.

Paul J. Siddens (Communication Stud-

ies) Adapting the Epic Poem "Dante's Inferno" into Contemporary Context for Live Theatrical Production as an Original Play.

Julie Zhang (Spring 2015) Bridge Theory and Industrial Project Application through Six Sigma Approach: Development of the Low-Cost Microcontroller-based Leakage Detecting System.

NEWS in SHORT

UNI's total fall enrollment is 11,928. Highlights of the enrollment report include:

- An increase of 4.4 percent in new students direct from high school,
- An increase of 20.2 percent in new minority student enrollment,
- Total minority enrollment is at 8.9 percent, compared to 8.1 percent from last year,
- An increase of 22.3 percent in new international student enrollment.

In addition, the university reported an improvement in its student retention rate. The rate of students returning for a second year is 84.7 percent, compared to the 82.9 percent from last year. This compares to a national average of 71.7 percent for similar institutions. This year's retention rate is the highest it's been in 15 years.

UNI retained its No. 2 ranking in the "Best Regional Universities [Midwest] category for public universities, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* 2015 "America's Best Colleges" guidebook.

UNI was also No. 18 on a combined list of all public and private Midwest regional universities—one of two public institutions to make the list of top-20 Midwest regionals.

"Being recognized as one of the best universities in the Midwest is a result of the work our students, faculty and staff undertake together," said UNI President Bill Ruud. "UNI will continue to be the most affordable university in the state, with a quality education that's accessible and affordable."

The magazine's ranking criteria includes peer assessment, academic reputation, retention, faculty resources, student selectivity, graduation-rate performance and alumni giving rate.

Humanities and Fine Arts Students in Graphic Design: Digital Image Design (taught by Roy Behrens) designed more than 70 posters to commemorate the annual Frank Lloyd Wright symposium at Cedar Rock State Park. This project was pro bono. In addition, the same class created visual equivalents for 23 poems by Iowa poet James Hearst, the results of which will become a limited edition portfolio called Pictura & Prairie *Poesis.* Funded in part by the CHAS Dean's Office, copies of the book will be presented to the Hearst Center for the Arts for use in fundraising.

Lucy Walker, two-time Academy Award nominated documentary filmmaker, visited the UNI campus Sept. 22 and 23 to screen four of her works. The films included *The Lion's Mouth Opens*, *The Crash Reel, The Tsunami and Cherry Blossom* and *Waste Land*. Walker's films have also been nominated for seven Emmys, an Independent Spirit and a Gotham Award and have many other film awards. She was the third visiting

filmmaker in the William and Stephanie Clohesy Documentary Film Series. The goal of the series is to bring the world's most distinguished documentary filmmakers to UNI. The series is sponsored by the UNI Department of Communication Studies and supported by the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, the Office of the President, the Office of the Executive Vice Pres-

Student, Desiree Dahl's, poster design for the Friends of Cedar Rock

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ident and Provost and many Friends of the Series. The Series is directed by David O'Shields, communication studies, filmmaker-in-residence.

MORE>>

Francesca Soans, communication studies, and Robert Neymeyer, student supervisor, Grout Museum District, received the 2014 Loran Horton Community History Award for Sons of Jacob Synaaoaue. The pioneering documentary explores the histories and experiences of the Jewish community in Waterloo, from the early immigrants seeking new opportunities and freedom from persecution to present day. The Loren Horton Community History award is named in honor of Loren Horton. who represented the State Historical Society of Iowa in many capacities from 1973 until his retirement in 1996. As the society's field services coordinator and senior historian, Horton's work brought him in close contact with many local historical organizations. In keeping with that legacy, this award recognizes the best project that increases awareness and participation in lowa history on a local level. The award recognizes an individual, group or organization whose outstanding local history project was completed during the previous calendar year

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has awarded a \$32,500 grant to the UNI Art Gallery. The gallery will use the grant funds to support an object-by-object survey of the works on paper in the holdings of the UNI Permanent Art Collection. "Our grants are highly competitive. The Institute of Museum and Library Services enlists hundreds of library and museum professionals throughout the United States to review grant applications and make recommendations on projects most worthy of funding," said IMLS director Susan H. Hildreth. "Receiving a grant from the IMLS is a significant achievement, and we congratulate the UNI Gallery of Art for being amount the 2014 IMLS museum grantees."

According to Darrell Taylor, overseer of the UNI Permanent Art Collection, "We are the proud stewards of an amazing collection of art objects, and it is our duty to preserve them for the educational and cultural objectives of this institution. This project will benefit not only UNI, but also the wider northeast lowa-area population and university alumni who buttress our efforts through scholarship, donation and guidance."

MORE>>

Sciences

The Department of Physics has been recognized as a "top producer" of graduates with a bachelors degree in physics by the American Physical Society. The Department ranks at No. 13 on the list of undergraduate physics degrees given at Masters-level universities nationally for the years 2010 and 2012.

"We are very proud to be recoqnized as a top producer of graduates with a bachelors degree in physics among masters-granting universities," said Paul Shand, interim head of the department. "It is a testament to the dedication of our outstanding faculty who nurture and mentor students from the time they enter UNI as freshmen or transfers to the day they leave UNI with their hard-earned degree. Our flexible degree programs and vigorous involvement of students in undergraduate research are geared toward the retention and graduation of every student. We look forward to moving up the list as more students learn that our physics department is a great fit for them, right here, right now."



UNI's Iowa Farm Bureau STEM Career

Outreach was granted funding from lowa Farm Bureau for years two and three of its operation. The program works to provide outreach conferences for teams of school counselors and teachers to expand their knowledge of STEM careers and training. They will hold six conferences at community colleges throughout the state. The pilot grant was funded for 2012-13 and funding for years two and three was based on the successful completion of year one.

The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service has approved funding for UNI's sixth year of running the Green Iowa AmeriCorps program. Green Iowa AmeriCorps, based at the Center for Energy & Environmental Education, offers comprehensive energy services to underserved populations in communities across Iowa. In September the program trained and placed 30 service members in six Iowa communities: Cedar Falls/Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, Decorah, Des Moines, Dubuque and Fairfield.

A New Learning Environment

New Major Takes Off at UNI

ust one year in and already three Panther alumni are proudly flaunting the newest earth science degree on their office walls, with nineteen more in the wings working towards graduation. The environmental science major the Department of Earth Science unveiled in the fall 2013 offers students a unique experience centered around courses in the physical sciences, preparing students for careers in the analysis and evaluation of environmental issues in several areas including air quality, hydrology (water quality) and geoscience (land quality).

The degree was born from what Department Head Siobahn Morgan, saw as a student interest and need. "We weren't really showcasing what we can do," said Morgan. "We have the traditional earth science degree and the earth science teaching degree, but many of our courses already had a very strong environmental component. So we thought, let's just be forthright and say, 'Hey, we are very environmental in our curriculum and people who are interested should have that major offered to them.'" Because of the heavy environmental influence already existing in the coursework, students majoring in the previously established degrees were able to painlessly switch over or even double major if they desired.

The major requires students to exper-ience all three aspects offered—air, water and land quality—although, the student may choose to specialize in a single area of study. Seeing and understanding the interconnectedness of all three aspects is a vital component to their education, said Morgan. Courses in geography and environmental health science are also required, along with roughly 20 hours of elective coursework. Additionally, the degree asks students to complete either an internship or research experience. To help advance this effort, Morgan hopes in the coming year to gain better connections with both state and private agencies. "We would like to make companies who need to follow environmental regulations aware that we do have this major," said Morgan, "and internship opportunities with those companies should be available to our students."

One such student is Roxi Woodside, a senior double majoring in earth science and environmental science, who completed an air quality internship at Polk County last summer. There, Woodside created a "No Idling" campaign to spread awareness of the health, environmental and financial repercussions of leaving a car idling. "I made a brochure, myths vs. fact sheet and stickers for people's cars," said Woodside. "We focused on how breathing in exhaust fumes can effect children. They breathe faster than us, their lungs aren't fully developed and they're closer to the exhaust, so they are at higher risk than adults." Along with creating promotional materials, Woodside was able to do some work in the field. "I worked hands-on with ozone, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and sulfur dioxide monitors, as well as particulate matter monitors, speciation monitors and air toxics machines," she said. "The field work was the majority of my time and I learned a lot."

After graduation Woodside hopes to land a job with the Environmental Protection Agency working with air quality. "I have had a good experience at UNI," said Woodside. "I have met a lot of people who have encouraged me and helped me succeed. I am fortunate enough to graduate in four years as a double major thanks to the encouragement of my professors and my parents."

Morgan believes the program exceeded any expectations she could have had. "In one year we have 19 enrolled students. Eager students just walk in and say, 'Tell me about this major.' I did not expect this many students to come forward this quickly. I thought there would be a longer climb in student growth." The majority of enrollment comes from new, incoming students, said Morgan, not students switching over from other earth science degrees. The new major has shown itself as a freshman favorite and all of this has been without a huge advertising campaign. Looking toward the future, Morgan said, "We are just looking at growth, trying to reach more students, improve resources and develop more research opportunities." To aid in this effort, the department has recently added a new faculty member, Xinhua Shen, who specializes in air quality and meteorology. Morgan makes mention of the great cooperation they receive from the Biology Department as also attributing to the new program's success. "Biology is very good at working

the new program's success. "Biology is very good at working with us and making sure students coming in for freshman advising understand what they're asking for or what it is they really want to know," said Morgan. "If the students are interested in helping frogs and pandas and things like that, then I send them over to biology. But if they are interested in the land, the water and the physical environment, then [together] we steer them over here." •••

Castle in Budapest

World-class Student Granted Unique Study Abroad

he stresses and anxieties that accompany the preparation for a new semester are familiar to every student: double-checking schedules, finding classrooms, purchasing books, making your flight on time— Wait... what?—Maybe that last part isn't so common for the average UNI student, but over the last fall semester, it was a concern for senior Ben Castle, a double major in music and mathematics. Castle spent 18 weeks studying abroad in the prestigious Budapest Semester in Mathematics program, in Budapest, Hungary.

The program allows for American and Canadian undergraduates in mathematics to study under the guidance of eminent Hungarian scholars who are members of Eötvös University. "Hungary has been one of the leading developers of young mathematicians for about the last century," said Castle. "A surprisingly large percentage of leading math researchers and problem solvers have come from Hungary, most notably, Paul Erdős, who is widely



regarded as one of the greatest mathematicians of the 20th- centurv."

Castle said he first became aware of the program at a mathematics conference in the spring of 2013 and after receiving encouragement from a few of his professors at UNI, he decided to pursue the program further. The approach to mathematics that the Hungarians have, one that favors independent and creative thinking, was one of the largest appeals for Castle. "I want to be a math professor," he said. "I'm interested in further understanding the relationship between math and



creative thinking, and in understanding ways to communicate this relationship to students." While there, Castle took a class specifically designed to give a first-hand glimpse of a particular method of teaching, which Hungarian mathematicians have been using to instill creative problem solving skills in their students.

However, Castle's motivations weren't simply rooted in math. "I also wanted to get something musically out of this semester," he said. "Hungary has a very strong and active musical culture. It was a goal of mine to observe it and attend as many musical events in Hungary and Central Europe as I could."

Castle's first musical performance in Budapest, the Budapest Festival Orchestra, ranks as one of his most memorable experiences of his trip. "I was amazed by how powerfully they played," said Castle. "In general, music performances are much cheaper in Hungary than in America, and it seems that all different types of Hungarian citizens take advantage of these opportunities. People in the audience wore very casual clothing and stood, craning their heads over the railing in the corners of the balcony to see the orchestra. However, when the music was played, the audience was as silent and attentive as any I'd ever seen."

Castle arrived in Budapest two days before either of his roommates and had yet to meet anyone else in his program. "For my trip and my first two days living here, I was by myself," said Castle. "This meant I suddenly had to live completely independently for the first time in my life, and simultaneously live in a foreign city."

Without knowing the culture or language, Castle was left to his own means. "Finding food, going shopping, that was intimidating for me, but it also turned out to be both exciting and rewarding." While there, Castle lived in an apartment with two other American students, which was a 15-minute walk from where they attended classes. The Americans shared the building with Hungarian tenants. Upon Castle's return, he has only one semester remaining and hopes to graduate in May 2015. "I'm hoping to go on to graduate school for math," he said, "with the intention of getting a PhD and becoming a math professor." • • •

INSPIRE

Launching Educational Opportunities at UNI

early two miles above the surface of the Earth, student-

crafted, high-altitude balloons captured breath-taking photos of the stratosphere. The balloons were created as part of the Iowa Near Space Project Integrating Research and Education (INSPIRE). Led by professors John Ophus and Alex Oberle, a group of pre-service student teachers at UNI embarked on a journey in which they learned the various aspects of high altitude ballooning—practices they will one day implement

in their own middle and high school science classrooms.

The goal of INSPIRE is "To engage undergraduate students in a research project to advance STEM content knowledge among pre-service teachers," said Ophus. "Through the use of hands-on high altitude balloon design, launch and data analysis, undergraduate science, geography and education students continue to research and develop curricular materials to promote K-12 education."

The process, as Ophus explained, incorporates many elements of engineering. Participants are given specific stipulations regarding their balloon and capsules. "Once launched," said Ophus, "they carry payloads of up to 12 pounds and reach altitudes of over 100,000 feet." There, the balloons take pictures and collect various atmospheric data—temperature, relative humidity and light intensity.

The program is funded through a grant awarded by the Iowa Space Grant Consortium, and as part of that grant, INSPIRE was able to establish connection with a NASA facility. "We contacted the NASA Wallops Flight Facility because they were the headquarters of NASA's high-altitude ballooning program," Ophus said. In March 2014, he and Oberle, along with eleven students, made the trip to Virginia to visit the facility.

During their four-day stay, the group was led on an extensive tour of the facilities, including workshops where they saw the construction of balloons for future flights. "The balloons and experiments conducted at Wallops are much more elaborate, extensive and expensive than ours," said Ophus. "The (balloon) material is about the thickness of a garbage bag and can stay aloft for up to six weeks; whereas ours are usually a three-hour flight."

Additionally, students were able to meet with Henry Cathey, the engineering group supervisor for the Physical Science Laboratory at the facility. "Because Wallops is also one of the main sites for NASA's rocketry program, we were able to see one of the Cygnus rocket capsules before it was loaded with materials to resupply the International Space Station," said Ophus. Along with visiting the NASA facilities, Ophus and company were able to visit the National Holocaust and Smithsonian museums. They were also given a behind-the-scenes tour at *National Geographic*.

For many of the students, it was their first time out of the state. "They were excited before, during and after the trip," said Ophus. "They represented themselves, the university and lowa extremely well. Dr. Oberle and I commented that we couldn't have asked for a better group." Ophus and Oberle plan to make another trip east over spring break. •••

SIXTEEN Strong

UNI sends sixteen undergrads to national conference

ixteen students from UNI participated in the 2014 National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) on Apr. 3-5. The conference was held on the University of Kentucky campus in Lexington, Kentucky.

The conference highlights research conducted by undergraduates. Students submit papers that are competitively reviewed by academics in their fields. The papers chosen for presentation represent the best undergraduate research happening around the country.

CHAS Associate Dean, John Fritch further explained, "Participants present their research in poster sessions, formal presentations and artistic and creative performances. In addition, they view the work of other students at the conference. Also, many graduate schools are represented at the conference and seek to recruit potential graduate students."

There were over 4,000 attendees at the conference including the 16 UNI students and five faculty members. The faculty included Jeff Funderburk (Music), Chad Heinzel (Earth Science), Jeff Nie (Technology), Carl Thurman (Biology) and Darrell Wiens (Biology).

Students included Francis Chabotte (Technology), John Chesley (Earth Science), Brett Copeland (Music), Randall Fisher (Technology), Jon Macomber (Technology), Maren Finsand (Biology), Mikayla Freese (Biology), Olivia Hottle (Communication Studies), Courtney Keiser (Mathematics), Morgan Kosar (Biology), Nicole Miller (Biology), Allie Simpson (Biology), Katherine Thomas (Biology), Celeste Underriner (Biology) and Victoria Arreola (Earth Science). UNI was represented by more students than any other Iowa college or university.

Fritch offered his thoughts on the conference, "The NCUR is a very positive experience for UNI Students. It provides them an opportunity to present research and to see how that research stacks up with the research of other students from a variety of universities throughout the U.S. In addition, the students' research is evaluated by professors at institutions from across the nation. This gives UNI students a rare chance to see how faculty from other universities are instructing students on how to do research. Also, attending the conference gives our students confidence as they learn that they are just as good, if not better, than students from all across the nation."

The students were sponsored by the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences. Earth Science Department faculty member, Chad Heinzel served as the faculty sponsor of the trip.

"NCUR 2014 was an amazing experience for myself and UNI's participating students," Heinzel said. "We had the opportunity to share our research with 4,000 students and faculty from across the nation and globe. Some of the greatest learning opportunities came from students sharing their ideas with others from very different backgrounds and research perspectives. For example, a conversation initiated by

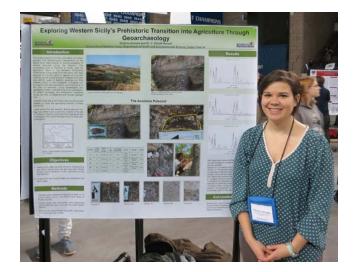


a music major who built her own drum kit from propane tanks led to an earth science major describing where the natural resources originate to make the propane tanks, to a physics major describing sound waves, and eventually, the discussion on how resonance is applied to each of their fields."

He concluded, "NCUR 2014 was a beautiful melting pot of knowledge, passion and hope. Our world is full of many complex and wicked problems. The students I spoke with acknowledged the world's problems but were confident that there are solutions and in their growing ability to address them. NCUR 2014 has facilitated an exponential growth of hopefulness." • • •



Above: Students pose with the Kentucky Wildcat sculpture. Bellow: A student explains his poster research to a visitor



BRIEFS Sciences



Living and Learning

The Biology Department in conjunction with the Department of Residence and Lyn Redington is offering for the first time a Living and Learning Community (LLC) for freshmen biology majors.

The program has 32 freshmen biology majors living on the third floor of Noehren Residence Hall. Roxane Kaale, an upper division biology student, serves as the Resident Assistant for this program.

The LLC offers many activities for the students. Early this year, the students canoed at the Hartman Reserve and hosted a Biology Club Night where the presidents of the various biology student organizations were invited to come and visit with LLC students about their organization.

Additionally, some of the students attended a public lecture, titled "How to Design with Biology: Towards a Biosynthetic Design Practice" by Ned Dodington, Founder and Director of AnimalArchitecture.org, sponsored by the Art Department.

Students also visited the UNI Gallery of Art presenta-

tion, "Nature's Toolbox: Biodiversity, Art and Invention." Nature's Toolbox is a traveling contemporary art exhibition and a mini-exhibition composed of artwork made by, or collected by, UNI scientists and mathematicians. It includes material from biology faculty members Laura Jackson, Nilda Rodriguez and Jeff Tamplin, titled "Scientists Collect."

The Biology Department has also provided funds to hire tutors to be available in Noehren Residence Hall for not only the LLC students, but any biology major who lives in Noehren.

Finally, the Biology Department sent faculty and students to a conference at Gustavus Adolphus College in October. This two-day conference celebrated 50 years of the Nobel Conference and included Nobel Laureates such as evolutionary developmental biologist Sean B. Carroll, neurophilosopher Patricia Smith Churchland, electron transfer chemist Harry B. Gray, paleogeneticist Svante Pääbo, biomedical engineer Jennifer L. West and neuroscientist António Damásio. •••

Math/Science Partnership

The University of Northern Iowa's Center for Teaching and Learning Mathematics in collaboration with the Waterloo Community School district has been awarded a state grant aimed at aiding professional development for special education.

By providing special education teachers with resources and education, those involved with the grant and professional development hope to close the achievement gap between Individualized Education Program (IEP) students and non-IEP students.

"Special education teachers have been caught in a skill and drill capacity," said Kim Miller, member of the Special Education Math professional development team and UNI instructor. "They are relying on timed computational math probes for progress monitoring. Professional development is urgently needed to increase the special education teacher's knowledge base, confidence level and resources in order to decrease the achievement gap."

This professional development was designed by a team of UNI faculty [Christine Curran, Kim Miller, Vicki Oleson and Jean Hitcheman], Green Hills Area Education Agency math Consultant Connie Terry and WCS coaches and teachers. Odette Bulmer, Poyner Elementary School and Deb Colflesh, Irving Elementary School. The program was piloted in their classrooms during the fall and the participants led a professional development group of twenty teachers in January. •••



BRIEFS *Sciences (Continued)*

Yager Award

The Yager Exemplary Teaching Recognition Award, established by the Robert and Phyllis Yager Education Fund for Excellence, recently recognized two UNI alumnae.

Jodi Osthus, mathematics teacher from Meredith Middle School in Des Moines and Allysen Lovstuen, mathematics teacher from Decorah High School, both received the award.

The intent of the award is to recognize exemplary K-through-12 teaching by University of Northern Iowa graduates and their mentorship by UNI faculty members. Nominees must be UNI graduates with at least five years of teaching experience in a K-through-12 classroom. Nominees are selected by UNI faculty on a basis of teaching materials and student performance.

Osthus was nominated by Edward Rathmell [Mathematics]. Rathmell noted that Osthus was a bright and dedicated student, and described her teaching as ahead of its time, as she was instrumental in developing methods of teaching problem-solving that were eventually incorporated into the curricula in schools throughout lowa.

"Dr. Edward Rathmell, along with other UNI mathematics professors and middle school mathematics graduate program professors, shaped my career," said Osthus. "They taught me the importance of having students problem-solve, reason, make connections and communicate mathematically. Their knowledge and guidance continue to shape my daily lessons."

Lovstuen was nominated by Jihwa Noh [Mathematics]. Noh noted Lovstuen's dedication to her algebra and calculus students and identified her as a teacher who asks questions of her students in an effective manner.

"They say it makes a village to raise a child, likewise it takes a community to raise a high-quality teacher," said Lovstuen. "The influences of family, professors, administrators, colleagues, communities and students all play a part. The Yager Exemplary Teaching award recognizes this interconnectivity in the field of teaching by honoring a professor and teacher together."

Robert E. Yager, professor emeritus of science education in the College of Education at the University of Iowa where he taught for 50 years, received his B.A. degree in biology from UNI in 1950. Yager went on to earn his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant physiology from the University of Iowa. His research interests have focused on student motivation and attitudes toward science. •••

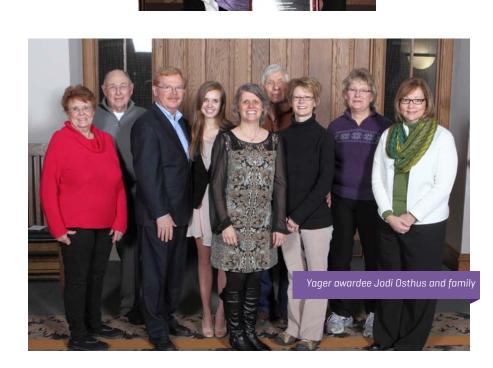




Dean Haack congratulates

the awardees.





Yager awardee Allysen Lovstuen and family

COLLEGI

ROBOSHOF

wo Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conferences where held during 2014, the first in March and the second in October. The all-day events allowed young women to participate in hands-on activities, exploring the many different areas of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math).

EYH is one part of the Computer Science Department's effort to reach out to women and offer STEM opportunities and education. Sarah Diesburg, associate professor of computer science and a workshop facilitator for both conferences said, "Women are typically underrepresented in STEM fields. Events like this can help widen the pipeline into good, fulfilling careers by introducing young women to problems and mentors." According to national enrollment, female students only make up 16 to 18 percent of those enrolled in computer science.

Even First Lady Michelle Obama addresses this need for women in STEM careers. She said, "If we're going to out-innovate and out-educate the rest of the world, we've got to open doors for everyone. We need all hands on deck, and that means clearing hurdles for women and girls as they navigate careers in STEM."

As part of this effort, the Computer Science Department sent six of their

students and Diesburg to Phoenix, Arizona, to the 2014 Grace Hopper Celebration (GHC), the world's largest gathering of women technologists. The GHC commemorates the legacy of American computer scientist Grace Murray Hopper. Hopper was a rear admiral in the United States Navy. She served in World War II, was one of the first programmers of the Harvard Mark I computer, invented the first compiler for computer programming language, was the first American and first woman to be made a Distinguished Fellow of the British Computer Society and is credited with popularizing the term "debugging" for fixing computer glitches.

The EYH conferences have been nothing short of a success. According to Diesburg, the popularity of the March conference created the demand for the October event. Seventy middle-school girls registered in March, but registratio nsoured to over 100 for the fall conference.

"When I heard of an opportunity for outreach to young women about computer science, I had to jump on the chance," said Diesburg. Her workshop involved students assembling EV3 Lego Robots then programming the robots to run an obstacle course. "I was surprised, not only, to see how easily new students caught on to the computer programming," she said, "but also, at the level of enthusiasm students put into the robot programming challenges, and how happy they were when their robots successfully navigated the course." She added, "Every time I participate, I'm energized by the enthusiasm of these bright, middle-school students."

Diesburg said a large part of the conference is introducing the students to local role models working in the field. "Seeing role models is very important," she said, "because it gives them the sense that STEM careers are real, possible and even normal." She hopes through this experience these middle school students have walked away with open minds and have set aside common, negative stereotypes about women in STEM-related fields. •••

STUDENTS *in the* $\mathbb{N} \in \mathbb{N} S$

Congratulations to our CHAS graduate students who won at the 2014 7th annual Graduate Student Symposium. Poster presentation winners include: First place, **Ranjana Joshi (Technology)** and, tying for second, **Lingziu Chen (Technology)**. University Room oral presentation winners include: first place, **Melanie Abbas (Technology)** and, second place, **Darshak Dodiya (Technology)**. Taking second place in the Elm Room oral presentation was **Sandra Flikkema (Communication Studies)**. Creative writing winners include: first place, **Xavia Publius (Women's and Gender Studies)** and second place, **Rachel Routier (Languages and Literatures)**.

Humanities and Fine Arts

Kyle Tablot and Daryle Veatch (Languages and Literatures)

presented at their first international conference in Dubia, United Arab Emirates.

Humanities and Fine Arts

Isaac Campbell (Communication Studies) won five Awards of Achievement at the IMPA Awards for his documentary ASPIRE (co-directed by electronic media graduate Glenna Goldman) and for additional videos "Ghosts," "Bravi," "Such Men Lived" and "Colts Recruitment." Monica Clark (Languages and Literatures) undergraduate and Rachel Routier (Languages and Literatures) graduate, published poems in the book Surges: Outpouring in Haiyan / Yolanda's Wake, a literature and art anthology published in December 2013 in the Philippines as a fundraiser for disaster relief after Typhoon Haiyan. Clark's poem was titled "If I Knew You By Your Name," and Routier's "Five Senses."

Sam Card, Sean Klippel, Tyler Gracey and Mackenzie Roth

(Theatre) were selected to participate in "Research in the Capitol," a collaborative effort of the honors programs of the three Regents universities. It is intended to celebrate undergraduate research in a variety of fields. Students from the three state institutions presented their research in poster format to state senators, representatives and other key officials on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 in the First Floor Rotunda of the Iowa Statehouse.

Alicia Jessip [Communication Studies and Languages and Literatures] was presented with the Diversity Matters Award and the Diversity Award for her work with UNI Proud, the Black Student Union and the Hispanic/Latino Student Union. She also serves as a member of the Disability Advisory and Action Committee, the LGBT Advisory and Advocacy Committee, the Military and Veteran Students Committee and as a trainer for the National Coalition Building Institutes [NCBI]. **Tanner Heinriches** and **Jason Vizzini (Communication Studies)** each received the 2014-15 Electronic Media Scholarship from the Iowa Broadcasters Association (IBA). The awards were presented at the 64th Annual IBA Summer Convention in Des Moines on June, 26.

Sixty student members of the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra (NISO), four School of Music faculty and one alumna preformed with the Orchestra Sinfônica de Universidade de Caxias do Sul (OSUCS) in Cazias do Sul, Brazil over spring break, March 17-21, 2014.

Bailey Knudson (Communication Sciences and Disorders) was

awarded the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) graduate student scholarship. The scholarship of \$5,000 is awarded annually to an undergraduate senior with an active NSSLHA membership who will begin an accredited Speech Pathology Master's program upon graduation. All graduate student scholarship recipients were recognized at the 2014 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention in Orlando, Florida in November.

Meghan Opolka (Communication Sciences and Disorders)

was named the 2014 UNI Student Employee of the Year at the Student Employee of the Year Luncheon. Opolka was selected from a group of over thirty nominees. She was employed in the CHAS Dean's office as a Recruitment Office Assistant. Dean Haack stated in his nomination letter, "I can think of no instances when she was anything less than a delight in her dealings with students and families visiting campus. Meghan, without exception, presents a positive and energetic image of the college." Opolka will subsequently be nominated for regional and national consideration.

Sciences

Courtney Keiser (Physics) co-authored a number of articles with UNI faculty. Her publications include "Laser Induced Oxidation and Optical Properties of Stoichiometric and Non-Stoichiometric Bi2Te3 Nanoplates," in *Nano Research*; "Temperature-Activated Layer-Breathing Vibrations in Few-Layer Graphene," in *Nano Letters*; and "Observation of Low Energy Raman Modes in Twisted Bilayer Graphene," also in *Nano Letters*. Keiser also pursued research over the summer at Argonne National Lab.

Mackenzie Smith (Biology) spent the summer interning at Dolphin Cove in Key Largo, Florida. There she worked directly with animal care staff members, assisting with all aspects of marine mammal care, including diet preparation, overseeing swim sessions, basic maintenance of facilities, guest relations and public speaking. Additionally, she learned dolphin identification and behavior, assisted trainers during training sessions, and participated in on-going research data collection, entry and analysis.

Abigail Beets, Michelle Ploof, Ramya Varadaraju, Michaela Leinen, Stephanie Smith and Elizabeth Myers-Schmitt (Com-

puter Science) attended the 2014 Grace Hopper Celebration (GHC) in Phoenix, Ariz. GHC is the world's largest gathering of women technologists and seeks to connect, inspire and guide women in computing. Participation in this conference is part of the department's effort to increase participation by women in computer sciences.

Solar Boat Club members **Luke Shatek** and **Bart Clubine (Technology)** took the UNI Solar Boat to Marshalltown High School to give a presentation to students about their club activities. The event's goal was to inform high school students about possible careers and opportunities within the field of technology.

The Technology and Engineering Education Collegiate Association competed in the Midwest Reginal TEECA Competition in Normal, III. Team members include Jack Rowen, Baily Abbott, Frasier Dew, Andrew Hauptmann, Dustin Smith, Alex Reams, Ryan Storm, Jorge Esquivel, Brett Waughop, Chris Entner and Ryan Anderson (Technology). The team won four of five entered competitions: Teach a Lesson, Quiz Bowl, Transpiration and Problem Solving, and took second in the fifth contest, Communications.



TRANSITIONS

New Faculty Biology **Nathan Bird** Assistant Professor Ph.D., University of South Dakota

Chemistry & Biochemistry **Brittany Flokstra** Instructor Ph.D., University of Iowa **Felicia Thadison** Instructor Ph.D., University of

Southern Mississippi

Communication Sciences & Disorders Lindsev Leacox. Assistant Professor Ph.D., Florida State University

Communication Studies Mellissa Dobosh.

Assistant Professor Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Philip Hopper

Assistant Professor M.A., San Francisco Art Institute

Ryan McGeough Assistant Professor Ph.D., Louisiana State University

Kyle Ruddick Instructor M.A., West Virginia University

Earth Science

Shen Xinhua Assistant Professor Ph.D., Colorado State University

Languages & Literatures **Elise DeBord** Assistant Professor Ph.D., University of Arizona **Heather Jeronimo**

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago

Brooke Wonders

Caroline Ledeboer

Instructor

Rachel Morgan

Instructor

Instructor

Mathematics

Heather Gallivan

School of Music

Amv Kotsonis

Ph.D., Washington

State University

Assistant Professor

Assistant Professor

Alexander Pershounin

Assistant Professor

D.M.A., University of

Assistant Professor

School of Music

Mitra Sadeghpour

Southern Mississippi

D.M.A., Indiana University

Ph.D., Florida State University

Nebraska-Lincoln

Anthony Williams

Assistant Professor D.M.A., University of Memphis **Randall Harlow** Assistant Professor D.M.A., Fastman School of Music

Philosophy & World Religions Cara Burnidge Assistant Professor Ph.D., Florida State University

Physics

Pavel Lukashev M.F.A., University of Iowa Assistant Professor Ph.D., Case Western **Reserve University** M.F.A., University of Iowa Seved M. Ali Tabei Assistant Professor Congcong (Penny) Wang University of Waterloo Ontario, Canada

Technology

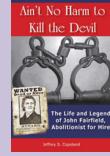
Sadik Kucuksari Assistant Professor Ph.D., Arizona State University Ph.D., University of Delaware Lee Geisinger

> Instructor M.A., University of Northern Iowa

Revuru Srikant Assistant Professor Ph.D., Andhra University

Sara Smith Assistant Professor Ph.D., University of Northern Iowa Science Education Alison Beharka Assistant Professor Ph.D., Kansas State University

BOOKNOOK



Language, Immigration

Negotiating Work in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands

and Labor

Elise M. DuBord

Abolitionist for Hire. One of the most amazing characters in American history was John Fairfield, was the only highprofile abolitionist to charge people for his work.

Retirements

Jeffrey Copeland (Languages

Harm to Kill the Devil: The Life

and Legacy of John Fairfield,

and Literatures] Ain't No

Duane Bartak - June 2014

James Walter - June 2014

Mohammad Fahmy - June 2014

Elise M. DuBord (Languages and Literatures) Language, Immigration and Labor: Negotiating Work in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands [Language and Globalization] explores dominant ideologies about citizenship, nation and language that frame the everyday lives of Spanish-speaking immigrants in the U.S.-Mexico border region.



From Premise to Practice

Tammy Gregersen (Languages and Literatures) co-wrote Capitalizing on Language

Learners' Individuality: From Premise to Practice with Peter D. MacIntyre. The book examines the theoretical basis for significant learner characteristics and provides practical activities for language classrooms at all levels.

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE AND CONTINUETO SERVE AT OUR UNIVERSITY.



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Jeremy Scharffenberger [Languages and Literatures]

The Waxing Poor is at once a lamentation and a psalm of brotherly love. These are personal poems of psychosis and paranoia of strangeness laced with beauty and grief, of lyrical mourning and narrative meditation on mental illness.

Jerry Klinkowitz (Languages and Liter-

Frank Lloyd Wright and His Manner of Thought. Designing more than just buildings, Wright offered a concept for living that still influences how people conduct their lives today. Wright's innovations in architecture have been widely studied, but this is the most comprehensive and sustained treatment of his thought.



Returning a Chance DONDRFEATURE

Ithough leaving the University of Northern Iowa nearly a decade-and-a-half ago, Gerald Intemann still works to improve and maintain the quality of research and education that occurs here on campus. In his most recent effort, Intemann has founded the Dr. Gerald Intemann Endowed Undergraduate Research Fellowship in Physics Fund.

"Since my departure from UNI fourteen years ago, I have stayed in touch with several members of the Physics Department and I have been back for visits on several occasions, including Alumni Weekend in 2014," said Intemann. "I have continued to be very impressed by the quality of the research conducted by the UNI physics faculty and their commitment to engaging many of their undergraduate majors in their research."

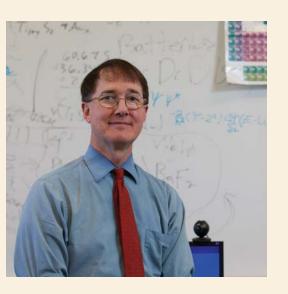
Internann's motivation to create this fund was partially fueled by, what he said, is a constant funding challenge to undergraduate research due to budgetary constraints. "But the [CHAS physics] department has been very successful in securing major federal research grants over the years. However, to help create greater stability in funding, I wanted to establish an endowment that would ensure annual funds on a permanent basis."

In the short-term, Intemann hopes the endowment will provide funds annually awarded to at least one undergraduate research fellowship. This will support physics student, research projects under the supervision of faculty members. The research projects will normally be conducted over a 10 week period in the summer, but may also occur during the academic year. In the long-term, he hopes to reach a higher endowment level that would enable the department to increase the number of fellowships awarded each year.

The endowment will focus primarily on aiding highly talented physics majors, said Intemann, "Who are engaging in physics research as undergraduates but who need financial support." This type of undergraduate research experience provides a rich alternative learning experience for students, as well as giving students a competitive edge in graduate school admissions.

Internann joined the Physics Department as the head in 1980. Reminiscing, he said, "I quickly discovered I had joined a department with a strong and proud tradition of collegiality and commitment to student learning." He said it is rewarding now to help preserve that tradition during times of significant change.

During his time as dean of the then College of Natural Sciences, Intemann worked to establish undergraduate research programs in all disciplines of the college. He also promoted international education through faculty and student exchanges with several universities around the world. "It was rewarding to work with all the departments and successfully recruit a new generation of highly talented and diverse faculty, who continue to help ensure a strong and vital faculty body in the sciences and technology for many years to come," he said. Intemann feels that his time at UNI left a great impression upon him. "Serving as a university administrator at UNI taught me that there can be a great deal of fulfillment in helping others," he said. "Whether it is students gaining a quality education or faculty successfully carrying out their teaching and research. This endowment is in keeping with my career-long interest in and commitment to promoting student and faculty research, and witnessing firsthand the many educational benefits that arise from such facultystudent collaborations." • • •



DONORUPDATE

Dr. Cliff Chancey, professor and department of Physics since 2001, passed away in October, 2013. At that time a memorial fund was established to create a lasting tribute to Dr. Chancey and recognize the difference he made to his department and to UNI.

Due to the generous response from our alumni and friends, more than \$33,000 has been received and the C. Clifton Chancey Endowed Scholarship in Physics has been established. The scholarship will specifically target students in their second year of the program. The focus will be on transfer students, non-traditional students, and students who have little support from other sources. The first award will be made for the 2015-16 academic year.

The UNI community, alumni and friends will always remember Cliff's devotion to his research and teaching, his commitment to serving his community, and most importantly, his devotion to his students. The C. Clifton Chancey Endowed Scholarship in Physics will be a permanent reminder of Cliff's impact at UNI.

GIVENOW



Make a difference this moment. Your financial gifts make it possible for us to offer students scholarships and support for their research projects, provide them equipment for their classrooms and support the ongoing professional development of their instructors.

and quidance of our alumni.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to all our CHAS alumni who have so generously given of time, treasure and talents to ensure the success of our students.



achievements of our students, please visit www.uni-foundation.org or contact one of our CHAS

Dan Breitbach,

CHAS Director of Development Humanities and Fine Arts 319-273-7727 800-782-9522 dan.breitbach@uni.edu.



Sr. CHAS Director of Development Natural Sciences 319-273-6360 800-782-9522 cassie.luze@uni.edu.

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ALUMNINEWS

'51 John Carson, BA, Walnut Creek, CA, retired in 1990 as chief geologist at Chevron Corporation. Much of his career was spent living and working in Alaska.

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'53 Ray Holtz, BA, MA '60, Ashland, OR, was

a member of UNI Jazz I, taught instrumental music for 29 years and was a certified financial planner for 21 years. He recently formed and conducts a 17-piece jazz orchestra, performing in many venues and backing Frank Ricci, who sang in Las Vegas for many years.

'54 Patricia (Mullaney) Harper, BA, MA '61, Waterloo, IA, was named one

of The Courier's 8 over 80 for 2014.

'54 Wanda (Zahnen) Larson, BA,

Sturgis, SD, has retired from teaching private voice and piano lessons, but stays active in music by serving as pianist for church services in Sturgis, SD. She spends her free time traveling to visit her family.

'56 Jerald Graetz, BA, MA '68,

Burnsville, MN, retired in 1996 after teaching music for 40 years in lowa, and now works summers at Crystal Lake Golf Course. He is a member of the Minnesota Valley Men's Chorale, vocal and hand bell choirs at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Burnsville. His late wife, Laurette Brunsvold Graetz, BA '57, an Iowa Choral Directors Association and north central district president, died in June of 2011.

'58 Harry Nimmo, BA, San Francisco, CA, published *Before Summer*, a collection of sixteen interrelated short stories about a gay youth's coming of age in lowa during the 1940s and 1950s.

'59 Chuck Mandernach, BA, Dallas, TX, recently attended a reunion of ISTC music graduates from the 1950's and 1960's in Boone. The group included Mandernach, **Homer Gartz '62, Dave Richardson '62, Hal Holmstrom '60, Warren Erickson '59, Arlene (Dighton) Williams '60** and former UNI faculty member **Jon Hansen, '61**, MA '65. '62 Paul Jones, BA, Montezuma, IA, was back on the ice of Antarctica over the winter. He operates the water plant at McMurdo Station.

() **'63 Gary Miller**, BA, Fond Du Lac, WI, is currently in his third term on the Fond du Lac city council. He was also recently awarded the Kiwanis International Hixson award after 37 years.

'64 Patsy (Wilson) Martin, BA,

Shenandoah, IA, was diagnosed with ALS in the summer of 2013. She taught high school English for 40 years and congratulates her fellow 1964 classmates on their golden anniversary.

'65 Myra (Stewart) Boots, MA,

Cedar Falls, IA, received the 2014 Faculty and Staff Award from the UNI Foundation.

'67 Judith (Lauer) Adamson, BA,

and David Adamson, BA '67, Chapel Hill, NC, ran several theatrical reproductions including *Raisin in the Sun, Clybourne Park* and *Metamorphoses*, which included a seven-ton pool on stage. Judy draped *Anything Goes* at the 2013 Utah Shakespeare Festival, while David directed grad students in two different projects.

'68 Gary Kelley, BA, Cedar Falls, IA, his illustrated book, titled Harlem

Hellfighters, received the New York Times award for one of the Best Illustrated Books of 2014.

'68 Larry Minard, MA, Davenport, IA, is the chairman of the Scott County Board of Supervisors.

'70 Dwight Bachman,

BA, Willimantic, CT, was invited to the White House to participate in a briefing on the Obama Administration's domestic and international priorities.

He is currently the public relations officer

at Eastern Connecticut University.

'70 Keith Courtney, BA, MA '71, Iowa City, IA, was ordained as a Soto Zen Buddhist priest on January 1, 2013 at the Iowa City Zen Center. He received the dharma name Gyokuzan Myogen and is currently assisting the priest of Iowa City Zen Center and making regular visits to Ryumonji Monastery. **'70 Ivan Joens**, BA, Centennial, CO, published his novel, *Losing Doll* on March 21, 2014.

'71 Cherin (Young) Lee, BA, MA '82, Cedar Falls, IA, retired from UNI in August 2014 after 30 years in the Department of Biology. For the last 12 years she served as chair of science education and for the last two years as coordinator of secondary teacher education. **'71 Roberta (Zehr) Yoder**, BA, MA '13, Urbandale, IA, received the 2014 Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award on June 18, 2014.

'72 Carol (Denter) Bodensteiner, BA,

Pleasant Hill, IA, published her first novel, titled *Go Away Home* in July 2014. It is a historical fiction set in Iowa during WWI.

'74 Jessie Nicholson, BA, MA '75,

Saint Paul, MN, received the 2014 Alumni Achievement Award from the UNI Alumni Association.

'76 James Aagaard, MA, Richland Center, WI, retired in spring 2014 after 38 years as the music director at the University of Wisconsin - Richland.

'76 Harlan Gillespie, BA, Webster City, IA, became superintendent of the North Central District of the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church (UMC) on July 1, 2014. He now works with more than 100 UMC congregations.

'77 Kathy (Simcosky) Baker, BA, MA '78, Le Grand, IA, retired from the Area Education Agency 267 after 36 years as a speech-language pathologist. At the time of retirement, she was a discipline representative for the south sector, which involved training and mentoring staff.

'77 Gayle Johns Rose, BA, Memphis, TN, appeared with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra in fall 2013. She performed as the narrator in

Aaron Copland's Lincoln Portrait at a September Masterworks concert. She currently serves as the chairwoman of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra board of directors.

'78 Patricia (Olthoff) Olthoff-Blank,

BA, Shell Rock, IA, received the 2014 Iowa Broadcast News Association's Jack Shelley Award on May 3, 2014. She has been with Iowa Public Radio for 24 years, as well as teaching journalism courses at UNI and Wartburg College.

'78 Dave Peters, BA, Cedar Falls, IA, after serving as president of Peters Construction Corporation for the past 20 years, he recently assumed the position of chairman and chief executive officer. The new role will focus on strategic planning, business operations and general management.

'79 James Fritz, BM, MA '85, Decorah, IA, retired from the director of bands for the Decorah School District after 28 years.

'80 Pat (Cahoy) Cunningham, BM, Auburn, NH, was awarded the 2014 New Hampshire Band Director of the Year by New Hampshire Band Directors' Association. She is in her 30th year as principal clarinetist of the New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra.

'80 Keith Poolman, BA, Clarion, IA, says UNI will always be an important part of his life. He credits the education, friends and wrestling at UNI with helping him get where he is today.

'82 Les Aldrich, BM, Evansdale, IA, retired as band director at Oelwein Community Schools in June 2014 and will concentrate on composing and arranging, especially jazz music. His oldest son, Tony, is a current music composition major at UNI, and his younger son will be a UNI student in spring 2015, after finishing his military police deployment in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

'82 Joseph Martelli, DIT, Perrysburg, OH, was a visiting professor at Shih-Chien University in Taipei, Taiwan. He taught international human resources and management in the summer of 2014. Currently, he is an associate professor of business at the University of Findlay.

'82 Craig Nichols, BA, Fort Lauderdale, FL, was appointed by Gov. Rick Scott as agency secretary to lead the State of Florida's Department of Management Services.

'84 Matthew Haven, BA, Cedarburg, WI, was named president of Telsmith, Inc., a manufacturer of mining and aggregate crushing equipment.

'85 Lisa (Andersen) Chizek, BA, MA '12, Toledo, IA, received a 2014-2015 Yager Exemplary Teaching Recognition

Award. She teaches 5th and 6th grade science at North Tama Elementary.

'85 Heather Draper, BA, Denver, CO, joined the Denver Business Journal's reporting team.

'85 Debra (Bruhn) Hedden, MA, EdD '97. Lawrence, KS, was selected for the Fulbright Specialist Roster. She is currently the director of music education and an associate professor of music education and music therapy at the University of Kansas.

'86 Scott Owens, BA, Urbandale, IA, is the Midwest regional manager for Halco Lighting Technologies.

'86 Debra Shapiro, BA, Suffolk, VA, is the president elect of the Virginia Technology and Engineering Education Association. She has been teaching in Suffolk Public Schools for 24 years and recently completed her 27th year as an educator.

'87 Jeff Lorber, BA, Springfield, IL. received the 2013 Alumni Achievement Award from Western Illinois University, where he received his master's degree. He currently serves as vice chancellor for development at the University of Illinois at Springfield and senior vice president for the University of Illinois Foundation.

'88 Keith Kluiter, BA, Irwin, PA, is working as the customer service director of Cleaveland/Price Inc.

'88 Mark Walters, BA, Jacksonville, NC, appeared in opera productions in Arizona, Alabama, Idaho, Wisconsin and Toronto. Walters was featured as soloist with the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, the Lima (OH) Symphony Orchestra and at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina. He will appear with the Seattle Opera in the title role of Don Giovanni in fall 2014.

'89 Stephanie (Steil) Hoppe,

BA, Castle Rock, CO, is the vice president for menu innovation and implementation at Red Robin Gourmet Burgers.

'90 Darrin Gillett, BA. Waterloo, IA, is the vice

president of Peters Construction Corporation.

'92 Ann McCalley, BM, Broomfield, CO, earned a PhD in leadership for higher education and

Noel-Levitz Certificate in enrollment management from Capella University in August 2014.

'92 Jodi (Hansen) Osthus, BA, MA '97. Des Moines. IA. received the 2013 Yager Exemplary Science & Mathematics Teaching Award. She is currently a math teacher at Meredith Middle School.

'92 Michael Swanger, BA, West Des Moines, IA, is the owner, publisher and editor of the Iowa History Journal.

'93 Bradley Block, BA, Custer, SD, is currently serving as acting superintendent for Jewel Cave National Monument within the National Park Service. His double major of earth science and natural history interpretation through the Department of Earth Science helped him move from front-line naturalist at a rural county conservation board to one of the longest caves in the world.

'93 Mindy (Hauge) Hauge-Woods, BA,

Hopkins, MN, owns her own graphic design business, Studio Woods, in Minneapolis and St. Paul. She recently created the cover and inside design format for a new book, titled Retro Football Games, written by **Steve** Anderson, '86.

'93 Troy Schwemm, BA, MA '10, Pleasant Hill. IA. received the 2013-2014 Yager Exemplary Science & Mathematics Teaching Award. He is currently a high school science teacher at Southeast Polk Community School District.

'94 Christie (Chase) Fleming, BA,

Burlingame, CA, is the senior vice president of marketing for Chicken of the Sea. She went to Des Moines as part of the brand's 100th anniversary tour of 39 cities, which also included distributing \$10,000 checks to local nonprofits.

'94 Jane (Kauten) Lutz, BA, Savage, MN. is the executive director of the Pharmacy Benefit Management Institute.

'94 J C Sanford, BA, Decorah, IA, released an album, titled Views from the Inside, with his 15-piece orchestra, JC Sanford Orchestra, He is a trombonist, composer and conductor.

'95 Eric Rembold, BA, Overland Park. KS, is in his 15th year with Shawnee Mission School District and is currently principal of Westridge Middle School. He previously taught Spanish and served as associate principal at Shawnee Mission North High School.

'95 Marcene Seavey, BA, MA '03, Waterloo, IA, was honored as a Fellow of the Iowa Academy of Science. She also accepted a position as the UNI stem coordinator.

'96 James Harken, BA, Windsor Heights, IA, is the project manager for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

'96 Tom Laures, BA, MA '02, Cedar Falls. IA. was one of 17 Iowa teachers to receive the 2013 National Board Certification, the highest recognition a teacher can receive in the profession.

'97 Jennifer (Krogmeier) Allemann,

BA. Saint Charles, MO, was featured in the Huffington Post on April 4, 2014 for her articled, titled What Grey's Anatomy Taught Me About Moving On Post-Split.

'97 Gary Hatfield, MA, MA '04, Cedar Rapids, IA, was named 2014 Iowa

Middle Level Principal of the Year by School Administrators of Iowa. He is currently the principal of Taft Middle School.

'97 Kerrie (Meyers) Michael, BA, La Porte City, IA, was one of 17 Iowa teachers to receive the 2013 National Board Certification, the highest recognition a teacher can receive in the profession.

'98 Christopher Like, BA, Eldridge, IA. received the 2014 Excellence in Science Teaching Award for Physical Science from the Iowa Academy of Science. He teaches at Bettendorf High School.

'98 Darin Osier, BA, Charles City, IA, is the quality manager at ConAgra Foods in Waterloo.

'98 Robin (Sitzmann) Shelby,

BA, Orlando, FL, was appointed to business development executive with the marketing and communications agency of Fray Hammond Barr.

'99 Justin Dams. BA. MBA '01. Waterloo, IA, was named one of the Cedar Valley's "20 under 40" by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier for 2014. He is currently the vice president of wealth management at Members Financial Service Center.

'99 Ryan Davis, BA, Vinton, IA, received the 2013-2014 Iowa Assistant Principal of the Year Award. He is

currently with Vinton-Shellsburg High School.

'99 Abinadi Meza, BA, Austin, TX, was a recipient of the Rome Prize presented by the American Academy in Rome. The award recognizes excellence in arts and humanities, and rewards recipients with fellowships and stipends that support residencies in Rome. He was selected for his contributions to the field of visual arts and is currently a professor at the University of Houston School of Art.

'99 Jeffrey Timmerman, BA,

Burnsville, MN, was elevated to shareholder status in Littler's Minneapolis office. Littler is the world's largest employment and labor law practice.

'00 Arthur Beckman. MA. Omaha, NE, retired from Omaha Public Schools in

2004 and is now teaching German part time at the University of Nebraska Omaha.

'00 Shannon Patterson, BA. Astoria. NY. directed a production of The Beautiful Dark with The Barrow Group,

a New York based, award- winning, non-profit, Off-Broadway theatre company, acting school and arts center.

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'01 Brad Best, BS, Cedar Falls, IA, was named president and chief operating

officer of Peters Construction Corporation.

'01 Nicole (Birkland) Long, BM,

MM '06, Pleasant Hill, CA, recently completed a 2-year residency with Opera San Jose where she performed eight roles. She also signed with Uzan International Artists of New York City and placed 3rd in the Irene Dalis Competition on May 10, 2014 in San Jose, California. Long will be preforming three roles at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City in the 2014-2015 season: Sonyetka in Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk by Shostakovich, Giulietta in Les contes d'Hoffmann by Offenbach and Baba the Turk in The Rake's Progress by Stravinsky.

'01 Allysen (Edwards) Lovstuen,

BA. MA '06. Waukon. IA. received the 2013-2014 Yager Exemplary Science & Mathematics Teaching Award. She is currently a math teacher at Decorah High School.

'01 Andrew McCormick, BA, Cedar

Falls, IA, was named the 2014 Outstanding Art Teacher of the Year by Art Educators of Iowa. He is currently an art teacher at Holmes Junior High School.

'02 Brent Johnson, BS, Cedar Falls, IA, was named one of the Cedar Valley's "20 under 40" by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier for 2014. He is currently the owner of Bike Tech.

'02 Matthew Stier, MA, Iowa City, IA, received the 2013-2014 Yager Exemplary Science & Mathematics Teaching Award. He is currently a science teacher at City High School.

'02 Amber (Seemann) Youngblut,

BA, MBA '05, was named one of the Cedar Valley's "20 under 40" by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier for 2014. She is currently in executive development with Veridian Credit Union.

'03 Brent DePaepe, BA, Albuquerque,

NM, started his own graphic design company in January 2009, which also allowed him to be a semi-stay-at-home dad. He will soon move back to Colorado to expand his business.

'03 Jill (Pagel) Jacobs, BA,

Parkersburg, IA, was one of 17 lowa teachers to receive the 2013 National Board Certification, the highest recognition a teacher can receive in the profession.

'03 Autumn Visser, BA, Roanoke,

VA, joined Woods Rogers PLC, a full-service law firm providing legal solutions to businesses and individuals across Virginia.

'03 Molly (Allison) Washington,

BA, Portland, OR, is a litigator with Ball Janik LLP. She emphasizes in construction defect.

'04 Dale Bazan, MM, Lincoln, NE, was promoted to associate professor of practice in music education at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. He has published research and is also a reviewer for several peer-reviewed journals. In July 2014 he presented several papers at the Biennial World Conference of the International Society for Music Education in Brazil.

'04 Benjamin Klemme, BM, Davenport, IA, was appointed assistant conductor by the Quad City Symphony Orchestra. His duties will include serving as music director of the Quad City Symphony Youth Ensembles and bringing classical music to young audiences as director of educational engagement. He will conduct pop and family concerts, and serve as cover conductor for all subscription programs. He will continue to serve as Concert Orchestra Conductor for the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies.

'05 Cary Pint, BS, Hayward, CA, received the 2013 Ralph E. Power junior faculty award from Oak Ridge Associated Universities and was named a Kavli Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences for his research.

'O6 Laura (Rutt) Jordan, BA, Ames, IA, works from home as a freelance graphic designer. She is the art director for Miami start-up, 2 Skinny Drunks, and is a volunteer art director at the Ames Community Theater. **'06 Brenda Liddle**, BM, Waterloo, IA, is an orchestra teacher at Carver Academy middle school in Waterloo.

'07 Jennifer (Nebraska) Tiede, BM, Marion, IA, is the band director at Lisbon Community Schools, whose class 1A high school concert band was featured at the Iowa Bandmasters Conference.

'07 Angela (Carder) Youngers, BA, Waukee, IA, self-published an e-book version of her first fictional novel, titled Painting Walls.

'08 Ryan Middagh, BM, Nashville, TN, was recently appointed director of jazz studies at Vanderbilt University. In 2013, Middagh performed with the Cab Calloway Orchestra and released the album, titled Colorado Brew: featuring Jeff Coffin and Tom Giampietro. Middagh toured China in 2014 with the Downbeat award-winning UNC Jazz Lab Band One and is endorsed by Conn-Selmer as a Yanaqisawa artist.

'09 Clay Edwards, MA, EdD '12, Toledo, IA, received a 2014 Yager Exemplary Teaching Recognition Award. He teaches 6th through 8th grade math at Grundy Center Middle School.

'09 Ariana (Wolf) Krueger, BA, Grimes, IA, received the 2014 Excellence in Science Teaching Award for Middle School and Junior High Science from the Iowa Academy of Science. She teaches 8th grade physical science at Dallas Center-Grimes Middle School.

'09 Alissa Meskimen, BA, Johnstown, CO, is a speech language pathologist at Northern Colorado Rehabilitation Hospital and Medical Center of the Rockies.

'09 Renee Rapier, BM, MM '11, San Francisco, CA, appeared at the Ravinia Festival in Chicago twice in August 2014 and has an extensive, upcoming performance season in 2014-2015. For more information, visit www. reneerapiermezzo.com.

'09 Daniel White, BM, Bettendorf, IA, served as the associate conductor for the national tour of Beauty and the Beast, in 2013-2014. White was also invited to conduct the international tour of the production, but declined in order to attend the Cincinnati Conservatory Masters in Orchestral Conducting program. There, he will focus on musical theatre conducting.

'10 Wade Arnold, BA,

Cedar Falls, IA, was one of five finalists for Executive of the Year at the 2014 Silicon Prairie Awards. The award honors companies and individuals for outstanding products, leadership and

contributions to the community. Wade is currently CEO of Banno, LLC.

'10 Sherman Wise, BA, Waterloo, IA, was named one of the Cedar Valley's "20 under 40" by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier for 2014. He is currently branch manager at Premier Staffing Inc.

'11 Tammie Cass, MA, Atlantic, IA, was named a state finalist for the Presidential Awards of Excellence, which is the nation's highest honor in math and science teaching.

'11 Jeremiah Landon, BM, Fort Madison, IA, is the choir director at Fort Madison High School.

12 Isaac Brockshus, BM, Charlotte, NC, served as the composer for original music used in a promotional video recorded and developed for the University of South Carolina.

'12 James Healy, BM, Jefferson, IA, is the director of vocal music for 5th through 12th grade in Dunkerton Schools. He returned to campus with his students for the fall 2013 UNI Vocal Arts Festival.

12 Allison Krois, BA, West Des Moines, IA, received the 2013 Richard Riggleman Young Speech Coach Award at the Iowa High School Speech Association Coaches Convention on October 19, 2013.

'12 Benjamin Schreen, BA, Saint Paul, MN, was a contestant on America's Next Top Model, which aired summer 2014. **'13 Ashley Smith**, MA, Iowa City, IA, is the band director at West Liberty High School. Under her direction, the West Liberty marching band earned a Division 1 rating at the Iowa High School Music Association Marching Band Contest in October 2013.

> **'99 Molly (Graettinger) Chicoine**, BA, married Myron Chicoine on July 29, 2012.

> **'01 Nicole (Birkland) Long**, BM, MM '06, married Gary Long on July 12, 2014.

'11 Jeremiah Landon, BM, married Reba (Jongeling) Landon on June 6, 2014.

'12 Spencer Walrath, BA, married **EmilyAnn (Brueck) Walrath**, BA '13, on June 7, 2014.



September 16, 2013.

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'96 Wendy (Aldrich) Jans, BA, and **Eric Jans**, BA '98, Nashville, TN, son Caleb Quinn Jans born July 17, 2013.

'96 Krista (Voda) Kelley, BA, and Phillip Kelley, Wexford, PA, daughter Emersyn Noell Kelley born August 22, 2013.

'99 Jennifer (Ketelsen) Johnson, BA, Marion, IA, daughter Charlotte Johnson born April 22, 2014.

'02 Brent Johnson, BS, and Amy Mohr, BA '99, Cedar Falls, IA, son Elijah Johnson born August 2014.

'00 Jennifer (Noehl) Rusch, BA, and Jesse Rusch, Peosta, IA, son Micah John Rusch born February 23, 2014.

'03 Ann Marie (Walkup) Schlapia, BA, and Darin Schlapia, Clearfield, IA, son Andrew Darin Schlapia born September 24, 2013.

'07 Dave Tiede, BA, and Jennifer (Nebraska) Tiede, BM '07, Marion, IA, daughter Isla Marie Tiede born July 19, 2014.

'09 Jason Hensel, BA, and Lea (Schellhorn) Hensel, BA '08. Davenport, IA, son Jayden Lee Hensel born December 4, 2013.

'10 Molly (Steffen) Juza, BA, and Geoffrey Juza, BA '08, MACC '09, Waterloo, IA, son Matthew Geoffrey Juza born March 18, 2014.

'11 Andrew Rupe, BA, and Angie (White) Rupe, BA '11, Marion, IA, daughter Cecelia Teresa born August 17.2014.

'38 Rheon (Zack) Lacke, BA. died October 29, 2012 in Santa Ana, CA.

'39 James Dycus, BA, died December 10, 2013 in Hammond, IN.

'41 Ruth (Lambertson) Sanderson, BA, died July 30, 2014 in Brighton, CO.

'42 Irene (Fockler) Varvel, BA. died December 1, 2013 in Lincoln. NE.

'45 Victor Varvel, BA, died September 12, 2013 in Lincoln, NE.

'49 Arnold Grummer, BA, died October 24, 2013 in Appleton, WI.

'49 Lawrence Shepard, BA, died January 6, 2013 in Ottumwa, IA.

'50 Donna (Whiting) Hillemann, BA, died July 22, 2014 in Bloomington, MN.

'51 Lavaughn (Kindwall) Penner, BA, died April 30, 2014 in Dallas, OR.

'52 Sonia (Scholl) Wilson, BA, died December 2, 2013 in Iowa City, IA.

'54 Gladys (Redlinger) Wagner, BA, MA '62, died November 11, 2014 in Durand, IL.

'56 David McCalley, BA, MA '62, died June 9, 2013 in Cedar Falls, IA.

'57 Jerry Janssen, BA, MA '59, died February 5, 2014 in Appleton, WI.

'58 Roger Balsley, BA, MA '70, died September 26, 2014 in Webster City, IA.

'64 George Coffin, BA, died July 20, 2013 in Gilbert, AZ.

'64 Richard Olson, BA, MA '71, died November 8, 2013 in Montezuma, IA.

'71 Jean (Seacat) Kimball, MA, died November 18, 2014 in Cedar Falls, IA.

'75 Deborah (Vonnahme) Pedersen, BA. MA '82. died March 9. 2014 in Dunlap, IL.

'78 Joleen (Waller) Siebert, BA, MA '04, died February 4, 2014 in Wellsburg, IL

> associate dean John Fritch has been selected to assume the role of interim dean for the College of

> Fritch brings a wealth of knowledge to his role as dean. He served as department head of communication studies for 10 years before being appointed to associate dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts in 2010. then in 2011 he was appointed to associate dean of CHAS.

Fritch has also served as the director of the National Debate Tournament for over a decade, being appointed by the Tournament Board of Trustees and National Debate Tournament Committee in 2004.

His experience and participation with debate coincides with his chosen area of research, which includes forensic rhetoric and Deliberative rhetoric.

CHAS Welcomes New Interim Dean

As Dean Joel Haack steps down, Humanities Arts and Sciences.



MARCH UNI Concert Band

March 3, 2015 - 7:30pm Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

Planetarium Show March 5, 2015 – 7:00pm and 8:00pm Room 105, Latham Hall

The Soul Food Museum March 6, 2015 - 7:30am and March 7, 2015 - 7:00pm Wesley Foundation 2422 College Street

Northern Iowa Bach Cantata Series Performance March 6, 2015 - 12:00pm McElroy Lobby, GBPAC

Sustainability Book Club March 11, 2015 - 4:00pm Room 324, Rod Library

Exhibition: Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition March 23 - April 18 UNI Gallery of Art

Reaching for Higher Ground Film & Discussion Series: "Miss Representation" March 23, 2015 – 9:00pm Center for Multicultural Education

Lecture: András Török March 24, 2015 – 7:30pm Room 111, Kamerick Building Elias Quartet with Benjamin Hochman March 24, 2015 – 7:30pm Great Hall, GBPAC

Final Thursday Reading Featuring Jeremy Schraffenberger March 26, 2015 – 7:00pm Hearst Center for the Arts

Suzuki Recital Weekend March 28, 2015 – All Day Russell Hall

APRIL

Spotlight Series: Performance Competition Finals April 8, 2015 - 7:30pm Great Hall, GBPAC

Theatre UNI Presents: The Great God Pan April 8, 9, 10, 11

2015 – 7:30pm Strayer Wood Theatre

Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood April 10, 2015 – 7:00pm Great Hall, GBPAC

UNI Jazz Band One April 10, 2015 – 7:00pm Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

Spotlight Series: Northern Iowa Wind Symphony, Concert Chorale and UNI Singers April 17, 2015 - 7:30pm Great Hall, GBPAC

Emily Bear April 18, 2015 – 3:00pm Great Hall, GBPAC

International Dance Theatre Spring Performance April 18, 2015 – 7:30pm Davis Hall, GBPAC

Sustainability Book Club April 20, 2015 - 5:30pm Room 324, Rod Library

Reaching for Higher Ground Film & Discussion Series: "Panopticon: The Documentary About Your Privacy" April 20, 2015 – 7:00pm Center for Multicultural Education

Spotlight Series: UNI Varsity Men's Glee Club

April 20, 2015 – 7:30pm Great Hall, GBPAC

Healthy Communities Film:

"The Cleantech Future" April 22, 2015 – 7:00pm Auditorium, Center for Energy and Environmental Education

UNI Opera Showcase April 22, 2015 - 7:30pm Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

Autism and Arts Education Symposium April 24, 2015 - 4:00pm April 25, 2015 - 5:00pm Russell Hall

Bruce Hornsby April 24, 2015 – 7:30pm Great Hall GBPAC

Crème de la Crème April 26, 2015 – 2:00pm Great Hall, GBPAC

BFA Group Exhibition April 28, 2015 - 10:00am to May 9, 2015 - 7:00pm UNI Gallery of Art

Final Thursday Reading Featuring Ted Morrissey April 30, 2015 - 7:00pm Hearst Center for the Arts

Spotlight Series: UNI Children's Choir April 30, 2015 – 7:30pm Great Hall, GBPAC

MAY

Good Lovelies May 2, 2015 – 7:30pm Great Hall, GBPAC

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f www.facebook.com/unichas



Questions: chas-info@uni.edu Updates: chas-alumni@uni.edu